Availability of essential commodities to the State of Gujarat

1203. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to make available adequately all the essential commodities in the drought affected areas of Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): The Government of Gujarat has reported that supplies of foodgrains to the drought affected areas are being augmented. Arrangements for supplying of PDS commodities at the sites, where relief works are being taken up, has also been arranged through mobile vans and by issue of temporary food cards to the workers.

1204 [*Transferred to the* 13th *March*, 1992]

Demand and production of edible oils

1205. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated demand of edible oil per year in the country;

(b) the annual production of edible oil in the country;

(c) whether Government have formulated a scheme to make the country self-sufficient in the matter of edible oil in the next three years and completely stop the import of edible oil; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The demand of edible oils for the oil year 1991-92 as projected by the planning Commission is 62.9 lakh Mts.

(b) The production of edible oil in the country is expected to be short of the demand by around 7 Lakh Mts.

(c) and (d) A statement is laid on the Table.

Statement

Some of the steps taken by the Government to meet the requirement of the edible oils are :—

(i) Two centrally sponsored schemes, namely National Oilseeds Development Project (NODP) and oilseeds Production Thrust Project (OPTP) which were operating till 1989-90 have been merged during 1990-91 into a single scheme namely Oilseeds Production programme (OPP). This scheme essentially provides essential assistance to the State for production and distribution of quality seeds, plant protection measures including supply of plant protection chemicals and equipments and organising demonstration of advanced technology.

(ii) The oilseeds projects of the NDDB;

(iii) Setting up of a technology Mission on Oilseeds established in May, 1986 for harnessing the best production, processing and management technologies;

(iv) Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices of major oilseeds;

(v) Intensification of research efforts for increasing the production of oilseeds;

(vi) Increasing the area under non-traditional oilseed crops like soyabean and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.

(vii) Efforts for promoting oil palm cultivation;

(viii) Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds; and

(ix) Fiscal incentives in the form of excise rebate for use of certain non-conventional oils in the manufacture of vanaspati so as to encourage increased exploitation of these source of oils.

Demand and availability of edible oil

1206. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the latest estimated gap between demand and availability of edible oils from indigenous sources in the country; and